

Docket No.: 1454.1118

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Horst MUELLER

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Confirmation No.

Filed:

Examiner:

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR TRANSMITTING DATA

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please DELETE the Abstract in its entirety and substitute the attached new Abstract.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please REPLACE the specification in its entirety with the Substitute Specification attached.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 1-13 without prejudice or disclaimer and ADD new claims 14-26 in accordance with the following:

14. (NEW) A system for inserting Ethernet signals in an STM-N frame of synchronous digital hierarchy, comprising:

a decoder to receive an Ethernet signal and to perform data rate reduction of the Ethernet signal in generating a decoded output;

a first multiplexer, coupled to said decoder, to form data words from the decoded output and associated monitoring information;

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